

August 7, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

In Re: ET Docket 03-104

Dear Sirs:

The electric industry's claim in its filings in ET Docket 03-104 that it will cause little or no interference to amateur radio or other broadcast services is pure hypocrisy.

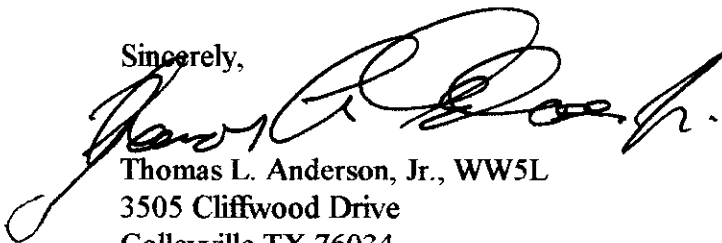
For several years in the late 1980's and early 1990's when Sandra Morris was the FCC's public affairs representative and Jim Wells was the Engineer-in-Charge of your Dallas TX Field Office I headed a volunteer team of ham radio operators who helped the Dallas field office, at their invitation, trace interference problems, much of which was blamed on amateur radio operators, but later proved out to be caused more by utilities than hams. As a team leader I had little effect on getting electric utilities to cooperate in these interference investigations, usually having to get Mrs. Morris or Mr. Wells to use the weight and influence of the Dallas field office to get Texas Utilities or other electric utilities to cooperate in tracking down interference complaints.

Telecommunications interference, albeit to television or radio, telephones, or other services, is most often blamed on hams. To allow broadband over power lines under ET Docket 03-104 would not only significantly increase interference complaints about amateur radio operators, but cause a tremendous increase in HF band interference to amateur radio operators.

As exemplified during the space shuttle disaster last February, it was amateur radio operators who could provide communications among state and federal search teams, while these same federal and state agencies could not communicate within the search area with their own sophisticated communications equipment

If the commission approves ET Docket 03-104 it will severely burden both its limited field office staffs with a plethora of unnecessary interference complaints and the amateur radio community with a cacophony of on the air static and other interference. ET Docket 03-104 should be denied in its entirety.

Sincerely,



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